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GRAD newsletter

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Office hours: Monday to Thursday 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

ELECTION

Along with this newsletter you will find the final report of the Chief Returning Officer. As you can see, there was a definite lack of interest. The G.S.A. can only function properly and serve its constituency effectively as people who are willing to get involved. It doesn't take that much time to be a good representative.

The vacant positions will be filled by appointment of the new council. If you are interested in filling one of the vacant positions, contact us as soon as possible.

GRADUATE STUDENT LOUNGE

Did you know that graduate students have their own lounge in the Hall Building? Well for those of you who are dazzled by unbelief, take a walk to the seventh floor and do some snooping in the faculty club area. There in an inconspicuous corner (room 773 to be exact), you will find a small lounge with a few tables and chairs. It is there for you to use. At present, some undergrads have been using it as a study room or eating area. To prevent this problem from recurring in the fall, we suggest that those of you in the Hall Building make good use of the lounge and come September, undergrads will not find space for themselves. We are trying to encourage students to use the lounge as a lounge.

TOM JACKSON AND JOBS

Tom Jackson, an expert job consultant, was the guest speaker at our annual meeting on March 4. The start of the meeting was delayed by one and a half hours due to the late arrival of Tom's plane. Nevertheless, attendance at the lecture was excellent. Outlines of Tom's lecture are still available at our office. An all-day seminar in job finding skills took place the following day with about 25 students in attendance.

Some of you were impressed, some were upset and many didn't attend. Well, you can't please all of the people all of the time.

NEW FEE STRUCTURE

There have been a number of changes in fee structures and methods of collection beginning September 1, 1977.

Beyond minimum residence fees have been removed and replaced by a term fee of $10.00 per term, for every term that a student is registered in a program. This fee simplifies fee collection. This should make little difference in the costs that students will have to pay till completion of their program.

There has also been a change regarding the collection of student service fees. As some of you may recall, there was a bit of confusion at the beginning of the year, as to the amount to be paid. There were three different categories that were applied to graduate students and as a result, a number of students were overcharged. A simplified scheme of collecting these fees was adopted by the Concordia Council on Student Life (CCSL). The new fee is now based on the amount of tuition you pay, i.e. a tax scheme. The tax rate for 1977-78 is 13.5% of the tuition fees. So if your tuition fees during the coming year are $100, you will have to pay $13.50 for student services. Once again, this will make little difference to the amount a student has to pay over the life of his program.

The Graduate Students' Association fee has been increased from $6 to $9. Now before you get upset and raise your arms in disgust, give us a chance to explain. The last increase took effect in 1972. Since then, increased costs due to inflation have been partially offset by increased student enrollment. Enrollment has levelled off and we have been forced to make cut-backs in our programs and services. The 1977-78 G.S.A. Council will now be able to expand programs and services.

DIPLOMA STUDENTS AND LIBRARY PRIVILEGES

We would like to congratulate those students, particularly diploma students, who spoke up concerning library privileges. Prior to March, diploma students were only entitled to a two week loan per book. They now have full graduate student library privileges. It's about time that all graduate students were treated equally!

If you have a valid concern, let us know!

G.S.A. GENERAL ELECTION 1977

At the close of nominations, the election situation is as follows:

Candidates for Executive Positions

President.....Vacant. No qualified candidate.

Vice-President.....Giuseppe Matteo.....Acclaimed

Secretary-Treasurer....Jill Martinez.....Acclaimed

Candidates for Representative Positions

Arts.....Michael Daskalakis....Acclaimed

Commerce.....Vacant. No candidate.

Engineering.....M. Omair Ahmad.....Acclaimed

Science.....Rajender S. Sipehia...Acclaimed

Fine Arts.....Vacant. No candidate.

M.B.A.S.A '77-'78

The results of the election for the executive of the M.B.A.S.A are in. Elected were: President - Steve Gewurz, External V.P.- Ian Rakita, Internal V.P. - Jerry Rosenblatt, Treasurer - Neil Wagner, Secretary - Steve Silverstein.

On behalf of the entire GSA Executive Council and the former MBASA council wish to extend sincerest congratulations to these new representatives.

INDEPENDENT GRADUATE STUDENTS

The University has decided that it is not in the best interests of the G.S.A. that independent students hold office. Their thinking is that since independent students are not committed to working towards a diploma or degree, they are not truly representative of the majority of graduate students.

The present council feels that they have a right to be represented and should be entitled to the privileges that graduate students have. What do you think? Your input will be very useful in determining our next course of action in this regard.

ODDS AND ENDS

There is an Eglish Graduate Organization (E.G.O.) that is fairly active. Some of the Institutional Diploma program students have organized themselves. If you are interested in either group, leave a message at our office.

We had hoped to have a representative of the Loyola Faculty of Arts and Science on our council this year. Once the new structure of Arts and Science comes into focus, a decision on our council's organization will be taken.

THANK YOU

As the academic year draws to an end, we would like to thank those who represented graduate students on the many committees and councils that exist. We have a right to express our opinions as to how the University is run. Let's not lose that right by default. Although many positions available to graduate students were filled, some were left vacant. We cannot overemphasise the need to have the graduate students' voice heard. Many of the changes mentioned in this letter were the result of graduate students voicing their opinions. If you want to get involved, ask your department chairperson or contact the G.S.A.

IN CLOSING

We want graduate students to be involved in every aspect of community life. We, therefore, welcome any comments, suggestions, criticisms, etc. If you have something to contribute to the association, please do. We wish you an enjoyable summer!

GRADUATING?

If you are graduating, we wish to remind you of the annual Concordia Graduation Ball, taking place June 3 at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel. Once again, Nat Raider and his orchestra will be featured. Tickets may be obtained up to April 28 in room H-637 between 12-1 and 5-6 p.m. Cost is $30. per couple.